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PATENT U.S. 09/591,659

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

North et al.

Serial No.:

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June 9, 2000

Title: ·

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Confirm No.: 3262

Art Unit:

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Examiner:

Ngo, Chuong D.

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JUL 2 6 2004

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Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sirs:

AMENDMENT RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Official Action mailed May 25, 2004, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of the Claims in view of the amendments thereto and the comments set forth below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/ Arguments begin on Page 10 of this paper